

coaches after the existing pit line at Kakinada is extended, for which work is in progress.

Upgradation of Nizamuddin Express

1518. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the Railways' long term plans with regard to Nizamuddin Express between Waltair and Nizamuddin;

(b) whether Railways are aware that this is an important train for the passengers of Coastal Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether Railways would upgrade this only direct train linking Delhi and Coastal Andhra Pradesh;

(d) whether it is a fact that this train is usually delayed every day;

(e) whether this train would be upgraded to make it more attractive and comfortable for people; and

(f) if so, the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) There is no long term plan to change the character of 8561/8562 Nizamuddin-Visakhapatnam Express.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Following 2 more pairs of trains provide direct connection between Visakhapatnam and Nizamuddin and the services do cater to the needs adequately.

1. 8543/8544 Nizamuddin-Visakhapatnam Samata Express (Tri-weekly) via Nagpur-Raipur-Vizianagaram.

2. 2803/2804 Nizamuddin-Visakhapatnam Swarnajayanti Express (Bi-weekly) via Vijayawada (This is a Superfast Train).

(d) No, Sir. The punctuality of 8561/8562 Express is generally satisfactory.

(e) There is no such proposal at present.

(f) Does not arise.